



# ***MEDIA ADVISORY***

## **INDIANA DISTRICT OFFICE**

**U. S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

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**Release Date:** Dec. 3, 2001

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### ***INDIANAPOLIS REGIONAL HEARING GIVES SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK AGAINST BURDENSOME, UNFAIR FEDERAL REGULATIONS***

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| <b>WHO:</b>   | SBA National Ombudsman Michael L. Barrera, members of the Regional Regulatory Fairness Board for Region V from <b>Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Illinois, Ohio and Indiana</b> , and representatives of federal regulatory agencies will hear concerns, comments and complaints about federal regulatory enforcement and compliance. Small business owners, representatives of community organizations and trade associations, and community and business leaders are invited to testify about federal regulations that may be having a negative effect on small businesses or that may be unfair or unreasonable. |
| <b>WHAT:</b>  | The U. S. Congress has asked the SBA and the national ombudsman to hold Regulatory Fairness Board hearings, such as this one in Indianapolis. The national ombudsman works directly with federal regulatory agencies to resolve complaints and create a more business-friendly regulatory environment. Using information gathered at Regulatory Fairness Hearings, the national ombudsman prepares an annual report to Congress with findings and recommendations on the federal regulatory environment and its impact upon small business.  |
| <b>WHEN:</b>  | Tuesday, Dec. 4<br>8:30 a.m. – noon  |
| <b>WHERE:</b> | MacArthur Room, Indiana War Memorial<br>430 N. Pennsylvania Street<br>Indianapolis   |
| <b>MEDIA:</b> | The hearing is open to the press and the public. In addition, Ombudsman Barrera will be available for interviews at 3:30 p.m. Monday afternoon and/or from 2 – 3:30 p.m. Tuesday afternoon.  |

**Anyone desiring confidentiality may request that his or her name not be released and may submit written testimony in lieu of a public appearance at the hearing.**

Any small business burdened by federal regulations can either contact their local SBA district office or the National Ombudsman Office in Washington at 202-205-2417 or go to the National Ombudsman

Web site at [www.sba.gov/ombudsman](http://www.sba.gov/ombudsman). Phone numbers for the nearest SBA district office are available by calling the SBA Answer Desk at 1-800-U ASK SBA.